IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/564,590 Confirmation No. 2341

Applicant (s) : William G. Lutz, et al. Filed : January 13, 2006

TC/A.U. : 1733

Examiner : Justin R. Fischer

Title : METHOD FOR JOINING PIPING SYSTEMS AND PIPING

TO EQUIPMENT, FIXTURES, DEVICES, STRUCTURES,

AND APPLIANCES

Docket No. : 63119A Customer No. : 00109

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE B

Responsive to the Official Action dated February 22, 2008, Applicants hereby reply as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of the claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Statement(s) Concerning Common Ownership begin on page 9 of this paper

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.

Conclusions begin on page 15 of this paper.